FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 1884.

A masementa To-day.

Academy of Munic...Let Haguenota. 1 P. M.

Bijon Opera Munue...Orpheus and Karydica. 1 P. M.

Santon... The Berger Nucleat. 1 P. M.

Daily's Theatre...Seven-Twenty-Eight. 1 P. M. Grand Opera Wouse-Francisca da Rimini. SF. Waverly's Comedy Theatre-Rest and Hand Madison Square Theatre-The Rajah. 1307. Metropolitan Opera House-La Giscouds. S P. M. New Park Theatre-Willes. S P. M. tible's finrden.-The Pavements of Paris. 8 P. M. People's Theatre-In the Ranks. I P. M. Stor Thentre-King Lor. 3P. M.
Thentre Comignes Corisities Aspirations. 2 and 8P. M.
Thails Thentre-Africaries. SP. M.
Tony Pastor's Thentre-Muldon's Firsts. 2 and 8P. J. Union Square Theatre-Storm Secten. SP. M Wallack's Theatre Oil Hee's and Young Boarts, SP, 1 RA Av. Theatro-Planter's Wife. 1P. M. 5th Av. Theaten-Peril. S.P. M. 15th 5t, Theaten-For Congress, AP. M.

Advertising Rates. Ordinary Advertisements, per Agate line. Cargo type or cuts (Agate measurement) per line . D 80 ness Notices, before marriages and deaths, per

Special Notices, after marriages and deaths, perline. 0 50 In Sunday edition same rates as above. Werker, 50 cents a line, no extra charge for large type. Preferred positions from 75 cents to 22

#### Marriages and Deaths.

Hereafter marriage and death notices will be

### Is it a Good Investment?

Seattered through the Treasury estimates for the next fiscal year are the following figures, exhibiting in part the appropriations asked for collecting the internal revenue taxes during twelve months:

Office of Internal Revenue Commissioner Salaries and expenses of Collectors and desu-Salaries and expenses of subscripate agents... Allowance on drawbucks, internal revenue Appropriation for detection and nunishment.
Redemption of stamps.
Refunding moneys erroneously received...... Refunding taxes illegally collected ..... Stamps, paper, and dies ... 475,000

This is not all. Part of the expenses of maintaining the office of the Fifth Auditor, and a large share of the expenses of the Department of Justice, belong to the swollen account of the Internal Revenue Bureau. Indeed, it increases the cost of every branch of Government with which it has direct or indirect relations.

But these items of expense are inextricably involved in other accounts. We must take the figures as we have them above. In round numbers, then, five millions and a quarter of dollars are required for running the machinery of the Internal Revenue Bureau for a single year.

Five millions and a quarter for pilling up a surplus which serves only to perplex statesmen and to tempt thieves.

Five millions and a quarter for protecting the heavy distillers and tobacconists against the competition of the small producers.

Five millions and a quarter for maintaining an odious system of Government interference with private business, paying spies and informers, and encouraging crime in the warehouses and bloodshed in the South-Is it a good investment, on the whole?

## Let Mr. McDonald Speak Out!

We are informed by some of our esteemed Western contemporaries that the Hon HENRY WATTERSON is going to Washington to take charge of the movement for the promotion of Mr. McDonald to the Presidency. It is a big job, but we have no doubt that Mr. WATTERSON is equal to it. If McDonald can't get elected President with his nid, he can't get elected at all.

But, before this thing goes much further. the people will require to know how Mr. Mc-DONALD stands on the great question of Free Trade and the Tariff. Is he for Free Trade? Is he for Protection? Is he for a Tariff for Revenue Only, excluding all protection? Or, is he really and practically a Protectionist, willing to compromise with the robbery and jobbery of encouraging this or that branch of American industry at the expense of the great masses of the country?

The day is gone by for ambiguities and obscurities on this subject. Speak out, Mr. McDonald! Are you a Revenue Only man, or are you a benighted and pitiable Protec tionist? No commonplaces now! Incidental protection is a tricky phrase. Pray, leave it out in your response.

# Forest Destruction.

A letter written by a resident of Malone in regard to the Adirondack forests is printed in another column. In a matter of this importance it is above all things desirable that there should be full and free discussion. We have no reason to doubt or to believe the accuracy of these statements, and we are unable at this time to verify or refute them. If they are true, it is consoling to know that there are still valuable forests left upon the State lands, and that portions of the wilderness where the log cutters have been busy in the past have escaped the destructive agencies of fire.

Very great changes have, however, lately occurred in the values of forest property all over the United States. Such property is now everywhere more valuable than it was ten years ago; and because unfortunate owners were then obliged to abandon valuable lands to the State in default of taxes, it is no reason to suppose that they will continue to do so with the present enhance ment of prices. Property, too, which may in the past have been abandoned on account of its remoteness, is now, with improved methods of transportation, of commercial

importance. Land covered with the primeval forest may not in the past have been worth paying taxes on, but this does not prove that owners will continue to give up such land to the State, now that it has, in the general upward movement of the market, reached a definite and recognized value.

Portions of Franklin county are thickly studded with lakes and swamps. The conditions favorable to the spread of forest fires are wanting in such regions, and they may have escaped. But the swamps and lakes gradually disappear with the forests, and

the danger of fire is constantly increased. It will be fortunate if it is found that this remote portion of the wilderness has so far escaped serious injury. But because lumbering has not injured it, it must not be taken for granted that lumbering can go on recklessly through the wilderness without sooner or later working its utter rule. If proof is necessary to demonstrate the ultimate effect of lumbering upon the North Woods, it may be seen along the streams which flow into the upper Hudson, where these operations have been long carried on, and where the disastrous results are too plainly visible.

Sooner or later, as the demands for lumber

idly or slowly, the North Woods will perish. Pavorable conditions may prolong the arrival of the fatal day a few years more or less. But come it must, unless the steady march of destruction can be stopped.

The Deadlock in Spanish Politics.

Although the Posada-Herrera Ministry has not yet resigned, the debate in the Cortes on the King's speech has demonstrated the hopelessness of the effort to effect a fusion between the followers of Sagasta and the Dynastic Democrats. Notwithstanding the members of the Cabinet representing the Dynastic Left consented to abandon some of the important features of their original programme, and even to qualify the demand for universal suffrage, these conessions have failed to satisfy the Sagasta Deputies, who, while professing to recognize the expediency of electoral re-form, are opposed to any modification of the Constitution during the present seasion. With the rupture of the coalition between all sections of the Liberal party that are willing to accept a monarchy, the existing régime has lost its best guarantee of tranquillity and safety, for of the three courses open to King Alponso in the impending crisis here is not one that will not imperil such popularity as he has managed to a quire, pesides plunging him in new complications no less awkward than those in which he is

It may seem at first sight that the duty of ALPONSO XII, is plain if he was sincere in the approval of electoral reform which he expressed the other day in the speech from the throne. Why, it may be asked, should he not dissolve the Cortes, and allow the HERRERA Cabinet to lay its programme before the electors? Far as the present body of voters is from representing the people, it is not impossible that with the means of corruption and pressure at their command the present Ministers might contrive to gain a majority of the popular branch of the Legislature. Yet, inasmuch as among the classes now intrusted with the franchise their adherents would upon a fair vote be greatly outnumbered both by the Conservatives and the friends of SAGASTA, they could hardly win a victory without resorting to measures which even in Spain would seem scandalous and intolerable; and such a feeling of exasperation would be provoked at court, in the Church, and in the army as would render the task of government well nigh impracticable. It is the curse of a country like Spain, where the right of voting is confined to a small, timid, and corruptible constituency, and where the stern, coercive power of public opinion is as yet imperfectly developed, that even patriots, in order to obtain a Parliamentary majority pledged to constitutional reform, must outbid and outbully their opponents in the dishonest game of bribery and intimidation, and thus defile and weaken an honorable cause.

Suppose, again, that Senor Sagasta should be recalled to power, what ground is there for believing that his tenure of office would be less precarious than it was for some months previous to his recent resignation? In the lower House the Dynastic Democrats would be more troublesome than ever, for they will now accuse him of betraying them. and their ranks are likely to be recruited by certain of Sagasta's followers whom he en couraged to join or support the present Cabinet by assurances that a fusion of the Liberals would be accomplished Neither are there any indications that SAGASTA could regain in the Senate the aid of the Campos wing of the Conservatives, to whose cooperation he was mainly indebted for the overthrow of Canovas. The reinstatement of Sagasta, therefore, would solve nothing, but only postpone solution for a brief period, and the danger of such a negaive, stop-gap Ministry would be that while the progressive Liberals were more and more alienated from the present ruler, the major ity of the priesthood and the classes that the clergy control, resenting the King's propensity to look for Liberal advisers, might welcome a revival of the Carlist machinations.

There is one man in Spain who might maintain himself for a considerable time against Carlists on the one hand and revolutionists on the other; but the reapcarance of Canovas Del Castillo as Premier would mean a defiant proclamation of reactionary principles, and the rapid loss of much that has been gained with so much difficulty in the peninsula and Cuba during the last two years. The immediate effect of such a retrogressive policy would be to make the young King odious to all Spaniards except the pronounced reactionists, and the members of the Dynastic Left would drift toward a combination with the ZORBILLA nonompromisers. There is, to be sure, a rumor that the three central powers have determined to sustain the present dynasty against revolutionary assault; but an attempt to carry out this resolve by a military expedition analogous to that directed by the Duc D'ANGOULEME in the first quarter of this century, might in these days have the result of inspiring all Spaniards with inextinguishable hatred of a King upheld by foreign bay onets. Canovas is, no doubt too shrowd man and too confident in his own resources to recur to such a rash expedient. It is prob ably true that at her present stage of political and social evolution Spain can be gov erned by any one who can command the adherence of the Church and the army; and Canovas comes nearer than any of his rivals to wielding those levers of success.

#### What Mr. Walker Ought to Have Talked About.

Mr. STEPHEN A. WALKER was on Wedne day elected for the fifth time President of the Soard of Education. His election having een a foregone conclusion, Mr. WALKER had ready a long address to deliver on taking the

What he said ought to have been worth the careful attention of the Board and of the public, for Mr. WALKER is a gentleman of ability and high character, and his knowledge of the schools is extensive and his interest in them gennine and strong. Besides, he has had a practical experience in the ad ministration of the educational system which ought to make his opinions and suggestions concerning it of unusual value.

Yet, so far as we can learn from the reports of the address, Mr. WALKER failed to go to the root of the trouble from which tha system suffers. "The increase in what may be called our fixed charges," he said, " is solely due to increase in attendance. No friend to the best interests of the city would wish to see the population increase and the school attendance diminish. I am not able to see a way of materially reducing the average per scholar." The large sum assigned the Board for purchasing new sites, erecting new schools, and enlarging and improving those we already have, "is indisputably necessary for the purpose," according to Mr. WALKER. "We must either give over the pretence of educating children," he explains, or provide the means to house them within a reasonable distance of their homes."

Of course, we must have schools enough to hold the scholars, and it is shameful that we do not have them now. No one disputes that and the price of forest products increase, rap- | the average cost per scholar in the primary

schools especially is probably about as low as it can be got. Nobody begrudges a cent of the money required to keep those schools in the highest state of efficiency, and to increase their number as fast as the growth of the population demands.

But Mr. WALKER does not seem to have suched the great question for discussion That question is how to secure the benefits of free education to the largest number, and yet keep its cost within limits which will not make the schools too heavy a burden on the city. As Mayor Low of Brooklyn has said, we must stop somewhere. New schools in voive additional expense, and that increase must go on all the time, for it is absurd to keep up a costly system of education unless every child in the city who wants free instruction shall always be able to get it. Accordingly, the expense will become too great for endurance if we do not cease attempting to do more than provide the rudimentary education for which there is a universal demand, while the higher education, which costs so much directly and indirectly, is wanted by only a few.

That is, as Mayor Low put it, we must crowd out at the top instead of at the bottom. We know from experience that the great demand is for primary instruction. Then there is aless demand for the grammar school course, decreasing as each superior grade is reached Finally, there is a small demand for high school and college instruction.

It is manifest, therefore, that the place to spend our money is the primary school and the grammar school in its earlier course. What we lay out on education beyond that goes for the struction of a comparatively small number, most of whom could afford to pay for their tuition, and few of whom, probably, are really benefited, so far as their life work is concerned, by what the city expends for them.

We think that those who know best will say that, in the run of cases, the longer a boy stays at a public school beyond the time required for getting a thorough elementary education, the more unlikely he is to adapt himself with ease to the practical work of earning his living. We mean a boy who has to make his own bread, and who requires not only school training, but also training in business or a trade. Nor do employers find that graduates of the higher schools are often thorough in their education. They have not learned to do well whatever they undertake, and so have missed the best discipline. They must be taught over again, and be instructed from the bottom how to do practical work methodically and thoroughly.

We believe, therefore, that if we under took to do no more than give an elementary training at the public expense, and laid out all our money and thought on that alone, the sum of the benefits rendered by public education would be vastly greater. We could then do good work so far as we went, and reach the average want, while now the whole effect is apt to be spoiled or marred by the attempt to accomplish too much. Moreover. such elementary training is all that the taxpayer can properly be charged for, and it can be provided at a cost which will keep within reasonable limits.

Those are the subjects which should have occupied Mr. WALKER's chief attention. The whole educational system needs reformation. And yet what reform had he to suggest?

## Snobs and Mobs.

There is a new safe deposit company in this city which has just begun business. The chief spirit in the management re cently called a meeting of the Board of Directors by means of a circular invitation which particularly requested the trustees to come to the building of the company in their private carriages. The array of handsome chicles would make an imposing display on the Fifth avenue, to be seen and admired of all men, and would conduce to the prosperity of the corporation by the effect thus produced on the imagination of the populace!

The same love for effect seems to have inspired the author of an advertisement nov published by the same concern, which thus sets forth some of its advantages:

"Security vaults environed by three feet thick brick walls, founded on adamant, webbed with electricity BURGLAR PROOF! FIRE PROOF! MOR PROOF!

They are telling a story in Kentucky about a young man who complains that a young lady called him a jackass the other day They were out driving together. The sky was cloudy. He told her it rained; that he felt the rain drops on his ears. "Pshaw!" responded his fair companion, "that rain is half a mile off." He thought this was calling him a jackass by indirection. No such tenderness need be shown toward the writer of the words "Mob Proof" in the foregoing notice. It is a witless act to suggest to people the false idea that the money deposits in New York are now in danger, or are likely at any time to be in danger, from mobs.

# A correspondent in Kansas City writes as

"It appears to me you cannot see anything west of fanhattan Island. It is certain you are of no use west of that lovely spot. There is a West even west of the Alleghany Mountains. We Democrats of the West pro-pose to have a Democratic party, not to exist as a tail to the radical kite any longer. If we are lucky enough to out a man on a revenue tariff platform, and who will not take Tue Sun's advice and look back, and say we mu still have a full tariff, we shall, from present appear ances, win the day in '84. "D. W. C. House."

What a lot of mistaken ideas Mr. House cherishes. We have lived in the West, and the ide that any one who has done so could allow that great and glorious country to pass out of his imagination is ridic alous. We have even taken considerable interest in advocating a Western man for President, the Hon, WILLIAM S. HOLMAN O. Indiana, until the Proc Traders got the upper hand in Congress and made it doubtful whether

any Democrat could be elected.

But Mr. House's saddest misconception is that THE SUN has advised anybody to look back. On the contrary, since a Tariff for Revenue Only was proclaimed as the Democratic platform, The SUN has most strenuously urged its authors to go shead and make their fight on it. The only difference at present between THE Bun and Mr. House is as to the effect of this new policy upon Democratic success in 1884 And with all due respect to Mr. House's judgnent, we fear that on that question THE SU is right.

A despatch from Lewiston, Me., relates that a citizen of Androscoggin has received from New York circulars offering him cart loads of counterfeit money at an apparently advan-tageous discount. It is thought in Lewiston that the documents, which purport to comfrom Mr. A. J. BELL, "may furnish some clue to the holders of the duplicate plates of the Pressury notes, the existence of which has so puzzled the detectives." and the Lewiston City darshal is considering the matter. If he will send a man on to New York with the circulthe deputy will not get any counterfeit plates.

but he can have a very pleasant time. Mr. BELL will show him new Treasury notes of several tempting denominations, all as good a the genuine. He will offer to sell them at almost any price, and will load up the leputy's gripsack with the packages. Meanwhile he will have devoted his persuasive powers to inducing the deputy to put up checks. promissory notes, cash, and jewelry, either a collateral or as evidence of his good faith, and in return Mr. BELL will leave the deputy-alone with the gripsack and go out to see a man. If the programme gets so far, and the deputy is a man of his word, he will wait for Mr. BELL to

some back and complete the bargain; if he is in a hurry, he may not wait; but whether waits or not, Mr. BELL will not come back. Then the deputy will be at liberty to examine his gripeack and find that it is stuffed with obong rectangular parallelograms of brown paper, worth, in the present depression of the rag and bettle market, one cent a pound.

When THOMAS CARLYLE described the forty millions of people, mostly fools,"

knew nothing about Mr. Tuo Wilson. Tuo became champion pugilist of England. ame over here and faced Mr. SULLIVAN for four rounds, Marquis of QUEENSBERRY rules and took seven or eight thousand dollars back to England. Here he took off his gloves, set nimself up as a shoemaker, and now all the recent bantering of such young bloods as CHARLEY MITCHELL, who couldn't face SULLI VAN for four rounds, to come out again and ight, doesn't make him leave his last.

Mr. Wirson lives in comfort and contentmen with his rising family, at peace with the world, and though he may not survey mankind from the elevation of the Sage of Chelsea, he, too is a philosopher, and that of the most practical and commonest kind.

CALAMITY WELLER of Iowa contributes to the Congressional Directory an autobiography which is one of the gems of the collection. He received a common school and academic education, also a course at State Normal School, New Britain, Conn., and Literary Institute. Suffield, Conn." Subsequently, as we infer from the order of narration, he "was born and reared a Democrat of the JEFFERSON and JACKson school," He has voted for FREMONT, LIN-COLN. GRANT. GREELEY, TILDEN, and WEAVER, He settled in Chickasaw county, where he 'tilled the soil in the daytime, and studied law, politics, and theology at night." He "was admitted to politics at once, to the State courts in 1868, and, finally, to the Church." In 1867 he ran for the Legislature, but was defeated "by a railread candidate sprung out three days before election." After many political vicissitudes Mr. WELLER got into the Forty-eighth Congress as a National. He had served only seventeen days when he achieved a national reputation by figuring as the solitary benchman of KEIPER when that statesman was insulted and attacked by his own party. It is an historical fact that CALAMITY WELLER stood by CALAMITY KEIPER.

The tidings that the King of Abyssinia is marching against Massowah may seriously interfere with the ingenious project of hiring him to protect both that port and Sunkim for the Khedive from the swoop of EL MAHDI. It may become evident that the greed of Egypt in refusing to allow Abyssinia any outlet of

her own to the sea has been disastrous. But whatever the fate of Massowah, it is difficult to believe that Egypt will abandon Suakim. even if she has resolved to give up, for the present, the whole of the interior of the Soudan. Suakim is the port not only of Khartoum, but of Berber; and if EL MARDI should establish himself at these points, the holding of Sunkim would be a dangerous menace to him on his attempt to move down the Nile valley. Sunkim, also, could always be kept supplied and defended by a British naval force, such as is at hand in or near Egyptian waters.

North of Suakim, the Nubian desert stretches between the Red Sea and the Nile and furnishes no practicable route for an army marching inland. Hence, the recent suggestion that BAKER Pashs may possibly be recalled from Suakim, with a view to its abandonment, must practically be a suggestion of also giving up everything further south than Lower Nubla.

Of Mr. BROWNE's bill to reduce the pay department of the army it may be said that it handles gently what could be sharply cut down or abolished altogether. He causes vacancies to remain unfilled until the department is reduced to a total of twenty-eight officers, namely, the Paymaster-General, one assistant, one deputy, and twenty-five paymasters. The House, in a former Congress, voted for a far more radical measure, but the Senate refused to assent to it. There is little doubt that it would be feasible to combine in one the pay department, the quartermaster's, and the commissary, thereby saving much of the present expense. As it would also be easy to do this by creating vacancies through casualty only, and by gradual consolidation, no injustice need be done to individuals.

The controversy about fences and fence cutting in Texas has assumed so much importance that it is worthy of the careful study of the Hon. THOMAS PORTERHOUSE OCHILTREE. The subject is of the deepest interest to the State of which he is the brightest ornament. Shall man and mule be gashed by brutal barbed wire, and no OCHILTREE come to the rescue? On the other hand, shall fences, the protection of peaceful enclosures and of tame, villatic fowl be torn down by the rude and ruthless hands of rancheros and law-louthing cowboys

"Then, Piston, lay thy head in Fury's lap." Let OCHILTREE tell Texas and mankind how and wherefore these things are. When Agriculture is taken by the throat, it is the most conspicuous member of the Committee on Agriculture who should rush to her defence. It cannot be that the impulsive Colonel is on the fence in regard to fence cutting. Let him speak, or forever hold his pence.

We copied the other day from the St. Louis Republican a poem entitled, "Nirvana," setting forth in striking language the Buddhist idea of he destiny of man after doath. We reproduced the verses precisely as our St. Louis porary gave them, but a correspondent in Paterson informs us that they were imperfectly given, and that the following is the complete and accurate version: NIRVANA.

As the infant sinks to rest. Nestled in its mother's breast, Let me on thy bosom lie, Loved and only Deity! Let me there a refuge find From the motions of the mind; From the strifes of men and brothers; From a life all borne for others; From night virils dark and lonely. Bhared with doubting demons only; From the flames of passion's fire; From the gnawings of desire; From the tortures of despair; From the black companion, care; From the simmber couched with sorrow; From the waking on the morrow. What to me are pathways golden. Harps and crowns and garish show Modelled on the life below ? Life, still life, however varied; Still a burden to be carried. Naught of this, Gautama, give, If to share it is to live! What to me are time-worn creeds, Web of barbarous names and deeds Woven threads of childish story, Far descended, crude, and heary, Crimped to superstitious phases In the infancy of races; Born of fancies weird and elfish; Nursing aspirations selfish; Gilded with a specious learning; Cankering life with futile yearning For a destiny supernal? Better, far, the rest eternal: Rest untroubled, tranquil, deep, Where no souls their vigils keep; Rest in sleep that knows not waking, Thirsting, hunger, or heart breaking Where the pain to be shall coase, In Nirvana, perfect peace.

These impressive lines were originally published in September, 1880, in the Free Religious Index of Boston. Their author is Mr. GEORGE W. CHAPMAN.

# "An American Wife."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir : Mrs. Barrett's note of the 22d uit. was written under a misappra-hension. She had not then received my letters with the manuscript copy of "An American Wife." The fact is, that the latter with the state of t that the latter production is exclusively mine as any one can see by comparing it with The Watchword. The plot, characters and stimutions of the latter play wate also mine while Mrs. Harrett contributed some ware also mine while Mrs. Barrett contributed some charming dialogue.

An American Wife" would probably have had a bester ancessa out for the absence of her pure, clear, drin literary style. I am, dear air, respectfully yours.

New Yong, Jan 10

GEO. U. Bannery.

THE TREASURES OF A BIBLIOMANIAC THE BONDED WHISKEY BILL.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10 .- It is quite natural that the bill to extend the time for keeping whiskey in bond for two years should be offered by Mr. Willis, a member of the House of Representatives from Kentucky. That State has yery great interest in this scheme to tax the people of the United States for the benefit of distillers, bankers, and speculators who have opulation of Great Britain and Ireland as got caught in their own trap when attempting to make a corner in Bourbon whiskey.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue reports that "nearly seven-tenths of the spirits remaining in warehouse June 30, 1883 (55,841,-741 gallons out of 80,499,993 gallons), was Bourbon whiskey. This fact seems to explain the ardent zeal of the Kentucky patriots in their endeavors to get Congress to suspend the law

as to their favorite beverage.

The Pennsylvania and Maryland patriots who are more particularly interested in rve whiskey, have joined hands with Kentucky. Behind both stand the banks and the brokers, who advanced money on the warehousing re eipts for the bonded whiskey, and who, by de fault of the depositors in paying the taxes, have become the real owners of the whiskey. These banks and brokers are actually the parties seeking relief, though they are par-tially concealed from public view.

Let us see what Mr. Willis's bill proposes in asking for two years' additional time. On the st of October, 1883, there were 73,847,103 galons of distilled spirits in warehouse. During the present and the ensuing seven months, the taxes falling due on this whiskey will aggregate about \$27,500,000. Here is an urgent and immediate demand from which there is no scape. This is the first point to be relieved, but it represents only a small part of what is ought from Congress.

The tax on 73,847,103 gallons of whiskey in

ond, at 90 cents a gallon, aggregate \$66,462;-392.70 for a year, or \$132.524.785.40 for the proposed two years' extension. Estimating the interest on that capital at four percent, the Whiskey Ring would pocket about \$5,300,000 in interest alone should the Willis bill become

The enhanced value of this whiskey from two cars' additional age is estimated at between \$25)000,000 and \$30,000,000. So that, in effect, these speculators modestly ask Congress to give them out and out, without any consideration whatever, a sum amounting to about onehalf of a year's interest on the whole bonded national debt.

From the indications here, Mr. Willis's bill is

not likely to receive much favor in the House of Representatives, or from the committee to which it has gone for consideration, and, probably, for interment.

### WHITELAW REID IN ALBANY. Visiting the Senate Chamber and Dining

ALBANY, Jan. 10 .- Mr. Whitelaw Reid was an interesting visitor to the Senate Chamber this morning. Senator Gibbs did the honors and secured the privileges of the floor for the editor. After the various Senators had been presented they gathered in little groups and compared notes. It was the unanimous ver-

compared notes. It was the unanimous verdict that Mr. Reid would make a much handsomer Senator than the ancient Lapham, and that Warner Miller could not hold a candle to him. The ten Cornell Senators, however, thought that the next United States Senator should be a man who looked more like George Washington.

Mr. Reid also took a peep at the Assembly, but did not stay long. This Assembly does not hold over to vote for Senator. Mr. Reid has been dining with the Regents of the University, that antiquated body which forms the fifth wheel of the State machine, and is kept going because nobody has cared to ston it.

The Regents are now employing their annual season of hoos, dinners, and recevitions. Few of them are here, and there are as yet no indications of a general ripping up of our educational system. It is the general opinion that Mr. Reid made a mistake in going into this retreat for gentlemen who are generally more ornamental than actively useful in public life, and that he should resign before he begins his Senatorial canvass. Mr. Chauncoy M. Depew was a Regent.

# A Word About the Adlroudneks.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: One of the soints which The See most frequently makes in its dis-cussions of the Adirondack question is that the lands which revert to the State for non-payment of taxes are altogether such tracts as have been stripped of their timber or wasted by fire. If you mean to be fair in the

matter, you will cease iteration of this statement.

I had a conversation only yesterday with Daniel H.
Stanton, Esq., Supervisor of Malone, a surveyor of large experience, and agent for Franklin county for all land held by the State in the county. These lands aggregate about 167,000 acres. Mr. Stauton has been on almost every lot owned by the State, and knows the character of all of them. I asked him what proportion of the lands had lansed, for the reason that they had been de-nuded of their timber, or because they have been ren-dered valueless by fire. He answered that there might be perhaps 40,000 acres all fold, or less than a quarter of the whole, and that of this amount a large part was sti the whole, and that of this amount a large part was still heavily timbered with hard wood, and that young spruces are coming up all through it in such quantities and with such rapid growth that they would soon afford good inmbering again? they were not State properly. Almost all of these 40,800 acres became State holdings not because they were regarded as worthiess, but only became the owner of them—the late Senator Norton of Plattsburgh—was crippied by the crash of 1873, and was unable citier to continue his hunbering operations or to pay accumulating taxes. The 40,900 acres in question are almost entirely located in two towns, and were this one many property.

pay accumulating taxes. The #0,000 acres in questions are almost entirely located in two towns, and were this one inan's property.

Almost all other reversions have been of well-timbered tracts, some of which were owned by men who bought them as a speculation when they knew nothing of the country, and who, after paying taxes on them for years revert to the State in sheet for them, permitted them to revert to the State in sheet for them, permitted them to revert to the State in sheet for them, permitted them to strength of the state of the state in the solution of the state has acquired because their owners felt that they had made them worthless by cutting them over. This view is confirmed by this fault. A. B. Parmelee Assen, successors to Titus A Parmelee have been conducted almost the state has acquired because their owners felt that almost one of the state of the state of the state has acquired because their owners felt that almost them operations in this viewils confirmed by this fault. A. B. Parmelee Assen, successors to Titus A Parmelee Assen, successors to Titus A Parmelee Assen, successors to Titus A Parmelee about 40,000 acres. In all this time they had not be successful a single acre of their isn'd to become State property, except in a few cases where they wanted to perfect title by buying thock.

it back.

Use a park if you will—and no one will welcome any rational achience of forces preservation more heartly than the writer—but base your advocacy on tenable grounds, and keep within the facts in your assertions if you were to send a representation into this section the could easily learn facts on which you could frame a piar of operations which would be feasible, and would satisfy the Adronadack country as well as the metropolitan section of the State Yours.

Fact, J. Szavas.

Malosz, Jan. 1, 1864.

### Tragedy in a Russian Court Hoom, From the London Telegraph.

VIENNA, Dec. 24.-A terrible tragedy was reently enacted in open court, during the trial of two oditional prisoners at Lusk, in the Russian province of follaynia. Two Poles, named Wierzbicki and Wilczinski, who were banished to Siberia after the events of Ising. effected their escape some months ago, but were lately arrested in the province of Volhynia, and brought up for trial. Wierzbicki is 50 years of age, and his companion 43. The jury found both prisoners guilty of the charge rought against them, and the former was co ned to ninety strokes of the rod and banishm condemned to ninety strokes of the roo and bases sen-for life to the Siberian mines, while the latter was sen-tenced to ten years' hard labor in the Siberian mines nd banishment for life. Hardly had the two unfortunate men heard their fate

when Wiersbicki sprang to his feet and exclaimed. Be accursed, ye soul-murdérers! You will not see me to-morrow: saying which he plunged a large knife into his neck. Great confusion ensued, and when the Judge alled upon the guard and prison warder to re wounded man those officials were nowhere to be found.
It was afterward discovered that Wilczinski had escaped; but he was recaptured in the town. Wierzbicki ies in a precarious state, little hope being entertained o his recovery. The public prosecutor has ordered the arrest of all the officials whose absence from court per-

#### Brouce Sam. From Puck.

Speaking about cowboys. Sam Stewart, known from Montain to Old Mexico as litoneo Sam, was the chief. His account of the Mexico as litoneo Sam, was the chief. His account of the Victoria selection as litoneo Sam, was the chief. His account of the point of the plains, and make him the servant of man.

There may be joy in a wild gallop across the boundies plains, in the orisp morning, on the back of a fleet frame, the plains in the orisp morning, on the back of a fleet frame, the plains in the orisp morning, on the back of a fleet frame, the plains in the orisp morning, on the back of a fleet frame, the plains in the orisp morning, on the back of a fleet frame, the plain is a state of the second of the back of the second frame of the back of you. Here is a line of sadness about it all.

Herono fam, however, made a specialty of doing all the original selections of the back of the could mount and rides offered to be item doilars that he could mount and rides offered to be the doilars that he could mount and rides offered to be the doilars that he could mount and rides offered to be the offered we are part of the corral gale, and sected the offer levy to turn out their best steer. Marquis of Queensi erry rules. As the steer passed out, yam shid down and wrapped those parenthetical legs of his around tim high bended, found homed mute, and he roule him this the fleet flowed the found homed mute, and he roule him this the fleet flowed the found homed mute, and he roule him this the fleet flowed the found homed mute, and he roule him this the fleet flowed the flowed to the same four days to add itself.

It took sam four days to add itself.

A ten doilar bill looks a two to me as the Star spanied Banner, sometimes; but that is an avenue of wealth that had not occurred to a four that is an avenue of wealth that had not occurred to a four the flowed to the flowed to the flowed to the home.

JAMESTOWN, Dec. 29 .- Recently there appeared in THE SUN a description of rare, antiquated books contained in the State's judicial library in the city of Rochester. Bibliomania is by no means an American craze, whatever may be in Great Britain, Germany, and France. Business and bustle absorb the time and thought of the mass of our countrymen. Fondness for novelty overshadows love for antiquity with occasional notable exceptions.

During three visits to London and Paris i was our chief pleasure to wander through the grand museums and saunter into second-hand bookstores and print shops, especially in London, where we became so much absorbed at times, amid pyramids of antiquated volumes, na to lose self-consciousness, something as Old Mortality did among moss-covered tombstones and their inscriptions. We brought home to the States rare selections of old prints and quaint books.

In the Bochester library is "Fitzherbert's

Abridgement," printed in 1565. In our collec-tion is the "Natura Brevium," by the same Abridgement," printed in 1595. In our concettion is the "Natura Brovium," by the same author, printed two years later, or in 1587, in Norman French and black letter, with lawyers' marginal notes, made by pen and ink, which we think no modern scholar or expert can interpret. Sir Anthony Fitzberbert, we believe, was the only nobleman that refused to accept for himself or family any estate from that "Bluebeard." the Eighth Henry, arising out of the secularized or despoided Homan Catholic monasteries. We possess the first edition of Butler's poem, Hudibras, published anonymously in 1662, and five years before Milton printed Paradise Lost, it is a strange fact that any copy of a serio-comic and political poem like Hudibras should, in its original form, survive. It was universally read and thumbed as much as any school book by saint and sinner, while Paradise Lost was neglected. Butler, in a second edition, changed some of the versification found in this, his earliest work. In the British Museum show cases we found the first edition of Rasselas, in two volumes, 1759, without the author's name, we have: a so Pope's first collected edition of his poems illustrated, 1717, in quarto, Pope afterward mended many of his verses in this, his favorite edition. "Remarks on Several Parts of Italy, by J. Addison, 1705," first edition, and the first qualished work by this author, graces our shelves. Addison had then attained his 33d year, and the work is the result of three years' wanderings, including Switzerland in his travels to and from Italy, Critics objected to the work that it described ancients had fascinated the author. Near the foregoing rare volumes our shelves, addison had then attained his 33d year, and the work is the result of three years' wanderings, including Switzerland in his travels to and from Italy, Critics objected to the work that it described ancients had fascinated the author, Rear the foregoing rare volumes our shelves, and gender of ghosts. Ho did not like "the Puritanes." In his Basilicon Doron "he cau author, printed two years later, or in 1567, in

pitting and roasting actors and painters, thus lrew his own portrait at the age of 30 years E'on I, whom nature cast in hid ous mould, Whom having made she trembled to behold, Beneath the load of municry may groun, And find that nature's errors are my own.

Een I, whom nature east in bid-ous mould.
Whom having made she tressheld to behold.
Beneath the load of miniery may groam.
And find that nature's errors are my own.

Churchill was the right arm of Wilkes, and kept polities in a blaze, till, dying at the age of all years, no successor could be found. Byron's Obscurity and fame, the glory and the nothing of a name!" was written upon a visit to Churchill's neglected and nearly forgotten grave.
To keep company with the foregoing volumes of dead authors, who in their time filled the horizon of vision, we secured the "Authentic Narrative of a Voyaga performed by Captain Cook and Captain Clerk, in his Majesty's (George III.'s) ships Resolution and Discovery, during the years 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779, and 1780. By W. Ellis, assistant surgeon to both vessels. First Edition: London, 1782: in 2 volumes. Containing an account of the death of Captain Cook, who discovered the Sandwich Islands, and who on this voyage was murdered by the natives."

This work is the history of Capt. Cook's third voyage of discovery, and the one in which he undertook to find a northwest passage. The work is illustrated with maps and cuts. Capt. Cook's two former voyages were made for discovery of islands in the South Seas. It was Capt. Cook who pioneered Gen. Wolfe across the waters in front of Quebec and enabled Wolfe to capture Monteain's army upon the Heights of Abraham in 1759. In spite of Capt. Cook's efforts, his crew at the Sandwich Islands, which he named after Lord Sandwich—introduced a contagious disease, which spread among the natives, and in after years more than decimated those same islands. Particulars of its introduction are given in this narrative of Assistant Surgeon Ellis.

In our collection are numerous fac-similes: copies of the handwriting of Melanachhon and Luther; also of the original of Magna Charta; the celebrated inscriptions upon the Rosetta stone discovered by Bomaparte's army in Egypt in the year 1801, and captured by the British army from the French, and now on whibit

irial urn of Alexander:
Though Alexander's urn a show he grown
On shores he west to conquer, though anknown—
Who never
Conceived the globe he panied not to spare!
With even the bissy northern isle urk nown,
Which holds his urn and never knew his throns. The northern isic holds not that urn.

### Climbing the Himsingar. From the London Standard.

Prom the London Standard.

Panis, Dec. 26.—Some little time ago a party of English tourists set out, accompanied by two well-known trindelwald guides. Boss and Kaufmann, on a mountain ering expedition in the Himalayse.

The Journal de Grave prints a jetter, thated Oct. 9, which has been received from Boss. He says: "We have just been a journey of two months into the ne nave just been a journey of two months into the interior, beyond the frontiers of British India. We are all in perfect health, and we shall soon set out for an expedition of six weeks. During our last journey we made the sacent of the Kabru, a height of 23,020 feet, and the Zubanu, another summit of 21,020 feet. We crossed in Nepaul a glacier of from 10,000 to 18,000 feet altitude. As to Mount Everest, a bright of more than 30,000 feet and which is situated in the Province of Nepaul, we cor tented ourselves with contemplating it from a distance of about twenty leagues. The entrance to Nepaul is strictly forbidden to Europeans, and especially to the English From the summit of the Kabru we saw two mountain From the summit of the Kabru we saw two mountains almost as high as the Everest, each of the altitude of about 30,000 feet, or double that of Mont Blanc."

#### Two Memarkable Needles. From the London Times.

From the London Fines.

The International Exhibition of Needlowork, which is to be held at sydenham in July 1884, will include its to be held at sydenham in July 1884, will include its to be held at sydenham in July 1884, will include its the second control of the exhibition. One is the famous near structions of the exhibition. One is the famous near the structure of the Emperor of Germany is Versu under circulated to the Emperor of Germany is versu under circulated its insurfactory at Kremansch, and was destrous of self-emmination with the relative power of unchinery compared himself the relative power of unchinery compared himself the relative power of unchinery compared himself the self-emmination of superfine needles was paced before him, 1,020 of which weighted less than half an ounce, and he expressed his astonishment that eyes could be bored in such minute objects.

Therefore, the foreman of the horizor department asked his Majesty to give him a hair from his beard, and except in the improvised and all the self-emminated himself of the self-emminated himself-emminated himsel

# Calvin's House Demolished.

From the St. James's Gazette, Dec. 20. A religious landmark has just disappeared from tricans. The house in which the refuring January Calvin trice when he studed for the law, to Ris da Gros Amesau, has just been pulled down. His room, lighted by two windows overlooked the sirred, and it was there that he received the visits of his two friends. Theodore that he received the visits of his two friends. Theodore do Bezz and the celebrated librarian Leurez. The pick and spatie are in full work, demolishing many ancient houses in the Chatelet quarter of the oily, and destroying much of its quantitative of the six antiquative and picturesque attraction for the antiquaty and its artist.

#### Letters from the King of Abyminia. From the Illustricte Zeitung.

Prom the Illustricte Scitung.

Dr. Steecker brings letters from King John of Alyssinia to the Queen of England. I a to-craim Emperor, and the French French Interaction in which he Breakers that unless Gailabel Ragos and other actuals are returned to into the will make an inroad on the Exyptian profinees. The King a well informed on fig. pitcu affairs, and seems inclined to saids the carliest opportunity of extending has frontier. It stocker formas home from Alyssinia 2.99 plants and 700 birds as his contribution to the Beria Nuesting also an insect collection and presents from the king.

#### An Austioneer's Clerk Becomes a Baronet. From the London Standard.

A young man recently engaged as clerk in an auctioneer's office at Huntingdon has just become a bar set. He is now for florace Blastion, his seat being sandy brook Hall, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

BUNBEAMS

-The old house selected by Dickens as the cene of many of the incidents recorded in the "Old "urlosity Shop," is now about to be demolished in con-

Portsing the transfer of the first state of the first state of the first state of the fifty Indian

The names of some of the fifty Indian maidens who are attending school in the Ci yof Brother ly Love are Bessie Big Soldier. Edna Eagle Feather, Frankie Bear, Ella Nan Chief, Mand Echo Hawk, Fannis row, Ennice Bear Shield, Sarah High Pipe, Lizzie Spider,

-The most honored guests in a Swiss hotel. says a writer in a London paper, are unquestionally the couriers. For these gentlemen are reserved the choicest wines and the finest cigars. They get a liberal commission on the amount of their employers bills, and when out of place can have free quarters with any it of their acquaintance

-The population of London has almost exactly doubled itself in the course of forty one years whereas the population of the rest of England has takes fifty-seven years to multiply in an equal degree. At the regioning of the present century out of every nine in habitants of Engined and Wates one only lived in Lon-don. Now the proportion has risen to one out of seven, —St. Mark's at Venice is not, it would ap-

pear, the only famous building where the old mosaic is fast perishing. M. Edmond About, who was lately in Constantinople, reports that cubes of mosaic constantly all or are picked out of the walls of St. Sophia and sole to strangers. The whole mosque is in a had way, ac-cording to him; the areades and walls are roughly shored up, and nothing but a thorough "conservative estoration" can arrest the evil.

-The longevity of medical men is well Hustrated by some figures in the London Lancet. The thirty five more or less eminent members of the profes-sion, of whom two were 10 years of age, two 94, two 92, one 91, two 93, one 80, three 88, three 87 five 80, two 83, three 84, four 83, one 82, and four 80. The two soulors in this list began their career as army surgeons, and served in the Spainsh and Reigian wars.

-Austin will be a busy city next week, About two hundred cattle men have already arrived, and it may be presumed that these are only the advance goard of the small army that will not as the Third House buring the extra ression of the Texas Legislature. The ession was called mainly to consider the fence cutting war, which has for some time past been the uppermos large ranchmen and small farmers meet in their Capitol city to tell their legis ators what must be done

-In some notes upon an exhibition of aniquities, which was opened in Tokio on the 1st of No rember, the Japan Mail writes: "There is one room, the contents of which alone will amply repay a visit. Its contents of which alone will simply repay a visit. Its walls are entirely covered with pictures by the old Ulinese masters. Two of them, gems from an antiquarian standpoint, hang inside a case which stands at the entrance. They are by painters of the Sung period— Baian and Riushomen—and, apart from their merits ag works fart, one of them establishes the fact that reels were used by Chinese anglers in the eleventh century What is there that Chinese civilization did not possess?"

—The wind swept across the prairies with

such velocity on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday last that a hundred men were unable to extricate a stock train that had been snowed in about ten miles south of Chicago; and when it seemed probable that the train ould not be moved until the weather moderated, the cattle were turned loose in the fields, where they were fed with hay furnished by the farmers. The animals suffered terribly, and eight of them died. Of two car loads of swine thirty-four perished. A train load of mules, shipped in San Antonio for Kansas City, was overtaken by the "blizzard." The mules were shipped without either food or water, and before 118 out of the 43 died they gnawed the cars in their hunger.

-Ivan Tourguénieff suffered much during the latter years of his life from a painful spinal complaint for which he consulted many eminent physicians and tried innumerable remedies. It appears, too, from s curious fact that has just come to light at Chaux-de Fonds, in the Swiss Jurs, that the great novelist did not put implicit trust in the faculty, and that when doctors failed to relieve his sufferings he sometimes applied to impirios. The police of that place had occasion a few lays ago to take proceedings against a quack, whos onys ago to take proceedings against a quick, whom supposed cures had won him a great reputation with the rustics of the neighborhood, and among the main's pa-pers was found a letter from Tourguenies written at longival, near Paris, describing his disease and asking

-Judging by the figures contained in recent official medical reports, the sanitary condition of some of the prisons of Russia appears to be as had as when the English philanthropist Howard visited them a century ago. Thus the prison at Tomak, in which the persons condemned to extle in Silieria are lodged prior to setting out in gangs on their eastward journey, has of late proved a veritable pest house. In the year 1882 no fewer than 1,288 of the prisoners there were treated for typhus fever. A still larger number suffered from attacks of dyscutery and recurrent fever, while 1,311 others, mostly children, fell ill of diphtheria, small-pox, and measies. Generally speaking, every inmate of the prison suffered from one or other of the above-men troned diseases, and many from more than one. The number of deaths was very considerable

-Letters from Idaho prophesy trouble at the Cour d'Alene gold mines next spring. The old mining law of Idaho guarantees to every miner twenty neres for his claim; but it is expected that 25,000 person will go up to the mines in the spring and unless new auriferous lands are discovered there will not be enough to go around, and the military force at Port Cour d'Alens will be insufficient to cope with the wrangling miners. A wealthy company is making extensive preparations y, having already shipped to Lake Cour d'Alene parts of a steamboat that is to be put together and made ready to run from the mines to Eagl City as soon as the lake is cleared of ice. Since the dis-coveries that were made has fail all has been conjecture as to the richness of the mines, for snow has accumulated there until it is from eight to ten feet deep

-The inhabitants of Berlin are proud of describing the capital of the German empire as "the City of Intelligence." This appellation may be well do served, but even in that centre of enlightenment each recurring Christmas shows that countless legends and superstitions hold their ground. For instance, no clothes-lines are allowed to be seen in the house between Christ-mas and New Year, for if they are not all carefully taken down it is believed by all good Berliners that dreadful accident will happen. On the supportable on Christmas Eve there must be a carp, which brings for-tune, and if the scales of the fish are carried about in the purse it will never be empty during the com-year. All dreams between Christmas and New Year me true, and all children born at Christmas have the gift of prophecy.

-The past season has again been very discouraging to cyster cultivators in England, and the conviction has been forced upon them that further ex-periments will be only a waste of money. From one end of the southern coasts of England to the other, thousands f pounds have been expended in endeavoring to protect of pounds have been expended in endeavoring to protect the spawn at spawning time, but without the least sign of success. The cause of the failure is the want of tem-perature. Only native oysters will breed in the estuaries of the Thames, but of late years the summers have been so short and cold that there has been but very little spat, and this is the reason of the scarcity and consequent dearness of the "native," which the English esteem the best of all oysters. Artificial breeding in England has been a failure. The only real success in the artificial breeding of oysters has been achieved at Arcachon, in the south of France, but even there, during the last two or three cold and wet summers, the crop of spat has seen only about one fourth of what it has usually been.

-A few weeks ngo seven girls, employed at a sugar factory in Balta, near Odessa, in Russia, left that town in the evening to return to their native village at some distance. The girls, belated on the way, re-solved to pass the night in the fields and proceed at day solved to pass the night in the fields and proceed at day-break. They had located themselves near a haystack in a field adjoining the highway, and, having some slight fears of re-bery placed their united week's carnings in the hands of one of their number for greater safety. the hands of one of their number for greater safety. The unfortunate girls were all fast asiesp, when they were tracked by a number of young men. The girl who had accreted the money in her dress had taken the precaution to cover herself with hay. The miscreants, findcaution to cover herself with hay. The miscreants, find-ing no money on the persons of the other six girls, mur-dered them in cold blood. They then fired the stack, and in the conflagration and smoke the surviving and terrified girl effected her escape and reached the village in safety. An alarm was given, and the murderous hand were all arrested. The survivor had recognized the murderers, who were all employed in the same fac-tory as their victims.

-The excavations recently commenced by — The exceptations recently commenced by
M. Garapanes on the site of the ancient Oracle of bolons
have already led to the discovery of the foundations of
the ancient temple of Zeus. Other relics of ancient
times have likewise been brought to light in the course
of the diggings. The most remarkable of these objects
are a considerable number of leaden tablets, on which
are written questions that were at one time or other are written questions that were at one time or other are written questions that were at one time or other submitted to the ancient oracle. Such inquiries were naturally lett behind at the femple, while the replied were naturally taken away by those who put the ques-tions when they departed home. Hence it is, that with a single exception, no answers have been found on the numerous tablets that have been discovered. In this exceptional instance, besides the question which is on one side of the tablet, the reply of the oracle is found on he other side. A certain person named Autio-him asks the oracle to what delty he is to addr as his prayers, in order that the members of his family may recover from maintee that had long affected them. The mayer of the stacle is in the usual indirect and ambiguous style, autochus is toid teat he must go to the city of Hermitone and worship the goldess who will meet him from the opposite island of Idrea, which may perhaps be interpreted as a roundabout way of recor valids to try the effects of a sojourn at the seasole.